

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF OREGON
PORTLAND DIVISION

GARY ODOM,

Plaintiff and Counterclaim
Defendant,

v.

MICROSOFT CORPORATION,

Defendant and Counterclaim
Plaintiff.

No. CV 09-230-MO

OPINION AND ORDER

MOSMAN, J.,

Mr. Odom, acting pro se, submitted a motion for clarification regarding the Court's prior order granting Mr. Odom's motion to dismiss his claims without prejudice but allowing the case to proceed on Microsoft's counterclaims. As discussed at the status conference held on March 11, 2010, and argued in Microsoft's response to Mr. Odom's motion to dismiss (#120) and Microsoft's Response to the Court's Request for Its Position Concerning Pending Counterclaims (#130), Microsoft intended to pursue its counterclaims independently if Mr. Odom's claims were dismissed without prejudice.¹ On March 11, the Court found that it lacked discretion to dismiss Microsoft's counterclaims for declaratory judgment if Mr. Odom's claims were dismissed without prejudice and then scheduled a dispositive motion briefing schedule on Microsoft's

¹ Mr. Odom's other cases may be resolved differently depending on whether the defendants in those cases intend to pursue their counterclaims independently.

counterclaims. *See Fina Research, S.A. v. Baroid Ltd.*, 141 F.3d 1479 (Fed. Cir. 1998) (noting that an active case or controversy in a declaratory judgment action requires "both (1) an explicit threat or other action by the patentee, which creates a reasonable apprehension on the part of the declaratory plaintiff that it will face an infringement suit, and (2) present activity which could constitute infringement or concrete steps taken with the intent to conduct such activity") (citation omitted). Thus, the case is currently moving forward on Microsoft's counterclaims for declaratory judgment of non-infringement and invalidity of the '592 Patent. (Answer (#17) ¶¶ 42-50.)

I have reviewed Mr. Odom's March 31, 2010 submission to the Court, which challenged various factual and legal assertions made in Microsoft's response to Mr. Odom's motion for stay (#135). My decision to deny Mr. Odom's motion for stay was based primarily on undisputed findings, including the procedural posture of this case and the prejudice that Microsoft would experience if this case were further delayed. *See Xerox Corp. v. 3Com Corp.*, 69 F. Supp. 2d 404, 407 (W.D.N.Y. 1999) (observing that a "clear rule has developed in cases considering stays that, where discovery has commenced, claim construction has been briefed, and dispositive motions have been filed and disposed of, courts should not grant stays for reexamination before the PTO") (quotation, alterations and citation omitted). Accordingly, even in light of Mr. Odom's responsive arguments, I do not find it necessary to reconsider my order (#141) denying Mr. Odom's motion for stay.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED this 2nd day of April, 2010.

/s/ Michael W. Mosman
MICHAEL W. MOSMAN
United States District Court